Promotional drilling

1876. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the targets set for promotional drilling for the last six years have never been achieved;

(b) if so, the reasons for not achieving the fixed tagets; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to reach the fixed targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

The performance of promotional drilling in the last six years i.e. from 1992-93 to 1997-98 is given below:—

Year	Target (M)	Achievement (M)	Short/ Excess (M)	Achi
1992-93	82,300	76,160	—6,140	92.5
1993-94	97,100	9,421	—37,679	61.2
1994-95	77,000	62.078	—14,922	80.6
1995-96	72,000	71,489	—511	99.3
1996-97	92,500	86,104	—6,396	93.0
1997-98	121,600	96,118	—25,482	79.0

It may be observed from the above table that though there has been a shortfall in achievement of the target, the actual performance has been improving steadily over the years alongwith the increased target. During 1998-99, against a target of 1,46,800 Meters, the actual achievement upto the end of October, 1998 is 70223 Meters.

(b) The main reasons for not achieving the targets fixed are as under:—

(i) Problem of forestry clearance in the areas where promotional drilling is to be undertaken.

(ii) Law and order problem in some of the areas where promotional drilling is being undertaken.

(c) (1) In order to ensure greater co-ordination, both GSI and MECL are interacting with the State Governments and the concerned exploiting agencies namely NLC for lignite areas, SCCL for Godavari Coalfield, CMPDI for other coal areas.

(2) A mid-term review is being carried out by sub-committee on coal and lignite (Group-VIII of Central Geological Programming Board) in Oct./Nov. to review the performance of promotional drilling against the physical targets and to suggest corrective measures. It has been proposed that the sub-committee should meet quarterly at CMPDI (HQ), Ranchi or at GSI, Calcutta.

(3) Implementing agencies namely, MECL & GSI have been requested to send monthly progress report by 10th of the month to CMPDI for submission to Ministry of Coal on monthly basis.

(4) Closer interaction and follow up with the forest Deptt. of the State Govt. and the MOEF is being undertaken to expedite the issue of forest clearance.

White Paper on Defence

1877. PROF. A. LAKSHMI-SAGAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an internal Indian Navy document has recently expressed discontentment over the Defence Service being marginalised in the process of national level security policy and has asked for a White Paper on Defence;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) A document has been prepared by the Indian Navy which deals wih various factors impinging for national security. The document is being studied by the government.

National Security Council

1878. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
DR. B. B. DUTTA:
SHRI RAGHAVJI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently constituted a six-member National Security Council (NSC) under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister to undertake a strategic defence review;

(b) if so, the main functio of this three-tier Council; and

(c) whether Government have examined/accepted any other recommendations of the three-member Task Force, headed by former Defence Minister, Shri K. C. Pant, on whose recommendations above mentioned NSC has been constituted?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) A six member National Security Council (NSC) has been set up. The Strategic Policy Group under the NSC will undertake the strategic defence review as one of its priority tasks.

(b) The functions of the NSC would include reviewing, monitoring, making long-term prognoses and considering policy options on all aspects of national security of the country.

(c) The recommendations of the K. C. Pant Task Force were taken into consideration in the Government decision on setting up the NSC.

Nuclear command and control system

1879. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a nuclear command and control system is being evolved;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the organisation/ Structure under the Department of Defence to handle safety and regulation of Defence Nuclear Activities including weapons development and deployment;

(d) the details thereof; and